

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 14645 230604Z

13

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-02

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 AID-05 OMB-01 /057 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0539

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

UNCLAS SAIGON 14645

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, VS

SUBJECT: FALSE REPORT THAT FOREIGN PRESS BARRED FROM GVN
LANGUAGE PRESS CONFERENCES

DEPARTMENT PASS IBS/NCA

REF: STATE 257523

1. WASHINGTON POST STORY ATTRIBUTED TO MCCOMBS IN SAIGON REPORTS THAT ENGLISH LANGUAGE PRESS BRIEFINGS BY GVN BEING TERMINATED BECAUSE OF SMALL ATTENDANCE AND THAT "FOREIGNERS ARE BARRED" FROM DAILY VIETNAMESE LANGUAGE PRESS CONFERENCES, WHICH ARE BEEING CONTINUED (REFTEL. THIS LATTER POINT IS UNTRUE.

2. FACTS ARE THAT, WHILE ENGLISH LANGUAGE CONFERENCE BEING DISCONTINUED FOR LACK OF AUDIENCE, ALL REPEAT ALL CORRESPONDENTS INCLUDING NON-VIETNAMESE ARE NOW ADMITTED TO VIETNAMESE PRESS CONFERENCE HELD EVERY MORNING. GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN TELLS US THAT THOSE WISHING TO ASK QUESTIONS IN ENGLISH MAY DO SO AND WILL RECEIVE AN ENGLISH ANSWER. SPOKESMAN ALSO POINTS OUT THAT THERE ARE SEVERAL GVN PRESS SPOKESMEN AVAILABLE DURING THE DAY TO ANSWER PRESS QUESTIONS IN ENGLISH.

3. FOR A LONG TIME MOST NON-VIETNAMESE NEWS GATHERING ORGANIZA-
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 14645 230604Z

TIONS (INCLUDING VOA) HAVE BEEN ROUTINELY SENDING VIETNAMESE

SPEAKING EMPLOYEES TO COVER MORNING PRESS CONFERENCES IN
VIETNAMESE. AT PRESENT THEIR NUMBER ACTUALLY COMPRISES ABOUT
ONE-HALF THE ATTENDANCE.
MARTIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Film Number: D740340-0184
From: SAIGON
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Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741117/aaaaoiu.tel
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